

REMARKS

Applicant elects without traverse the claims of Group 1. A divisional application may be filed later, including the claims of non-elected Group 2.

Applicant has amended claim 1 to a generic form and has cancelled claim 24. Applicant has further added new dependent claim 43, reciting features formerly included in claim 1, and new dependent claim 44, reciting features of cancelled claim 24. Claims 2-13 and 15 have been amended to correct antecedence, in view of newly-added claims 43 and 44.

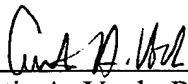
Applicant argues that the above amendments remove the Examiner's requirement for species election and respectfully requests consideration of all of claims 1-23, 43 and 44. Should the Examiner reject these arguments, an opportunity to interview this case is requested by the undersigned attorney.

Finally, since Applicant is required to elect a species, Applicant elects, with traverse, the claims of Species 1. As claim 1 has been amended and new claim 43 now recites elements formerly included in claim 1, Applicant submits that claim 43 is a part of Species 1, and requests its inclusion in Species 1.

The Petition and fee for a one month extension of time is included herewith. In light of the cancellation of 24 and 28-42 (previously paid for), Applicant believes no fees are due for the addition of claims 43 and 44. However, should any additional fees be deemed necessary in connection with this Amendment and Response, the commissioner is hereby authorized to charge deposit account 12-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

By:


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